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TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER.

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REPORTS

OF THE

SELECTMEN

AND

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER.

FOR THE YEAR 1860.

CONCORD:
McFARLAND & JENKS, STEAM PRINTERS.
1860.

REPORT.

The Selectmen credit the town for the year ending March 1, 1860, as follows:

By list of taxes assessed in April, 1859,	$1,704.66
cash of collector, for 1858,	110.61
cash received on Stephen Eastman's note,	7.69
cash received for county paupers,	161.63
cash on hand March 5, 1859,	5.57
	$1,990.16

DISBURSEMENTS OF THE SELECTMEN.

PAID OUTSTANDING BILLS.

Paid J. H. Johnson J. P. Smith's bill, for labor and lumber on Pike's bridge, in 1858,	13.08
Jonathan K. Baker, for use of cart on Union bridge,	1.50
Samuel Brown, for pew in town hall,	1.55
John Boardman, " "	1.55
James Brown, " "	1.64
Martin Boardman, " "	1.64
Richard Brown for two pews in town hall,	3.25
David T. Fellows, for Elizabeth Goss' pew in town hall,	1.64
Richard Brown, for lumber for town hall,	.66
J. H. Johnson, " "	2.75
Cost of suit of Barnett Hughes against the town,	21.48
Barnett Hughes his claim,	42.00
N. Batcheldor, for lumber and expenses on bridge,	21.93
M. S. Brown, for work on Heath bridge, in 1858,	1.37
	$116.04

DAMAGES.

Paid T. L. Blodgett, for damage to horse,	10.00
J. F. Morrill, for damages to wagon,	2.25
	$12.25

HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

Paid Richard Brown, plank for bridge,	5.60
J. K. Baker, " "	3.80
R. Hammond, " "	2.76
Samuel Morrison, for lumber and work on bridge,	4.05
Josiah Marston, for work on bridge,	1.50
John Fuller, " "	.84
John T. Mead,	6.00
	$24.55

SUPPORT OF THE POOR.

Paid James M. Cross, for support of Polly Spencer,	24.10
Martin Boardman, for support of Nancy Heath's children,	68.02
Elizabeth Spiller, for support of Mary Crawford,	54.21
Timothy Wiggin, for support of Hannah R. Smith,	60.87
for R. Y. Barber, at the Asylum for the Insane,	160.86
for supplies furnished Ensign H. Tyrrell,	16.62
Selectmen of Woodstock, for the family of Caleb W. Morse,	5.90
for coat for Henry Tilton, March, 1859,	5.50
support of county paupers,	164.18
Daniel Batchelder, for support of Calvin Chandler,	15.00
Thomas Hammond, for clothing for Nancy Heath's children,	1.50
	$576.76

SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

District No. 1—David M. Webster,	Prudential	Committee,	37.44
" " 2—John B. Marston,	"	"	12.91
" " 3—Moses M. R. Mitchell,	"	"	18.68
" " 4—Cyrus A. Cass,	"	"	27.45
" " 5—Horace Brown,	"	"	21.31
" " 6—Philip C. Bean,	"	"	3.33
" " 7—David B. Clement,	"	"	33.58
" " 8—Jonathan H. Johnson,	"	"	47.42
" " 9—Enos Brown,	"	"	10.28
" " 10—Daniel Batchelder,	"	"	11.09
Union No. 1—John Nutting,	"	"	6.51
			$230.00

SCHOOLHOUSE TAXES.

District No. 6—David M. Merril,	20.97
" " 8—Jonathan H. Johnson,	10.12
Union No. 1—Charles J. Mitchell,	56.94
	$88.03

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

Joseph Heath,	7.24
Daniel Cass, Jr.,	2.02
John S. Martin, loss of two cows,	.57
James Brown, loss of an ox,	.32
Barnett Hughes,	1.44
Richard Merrill,	2.66
Samuel Smith, loss of steer,	.18
	$14.43

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES.

Paid Cyrus A. Cass, wood for town hall,	.75
for stationery, &c.,	5.30
town treasurer, interest on note,	27.47
expenses taking inventory, &c.,	2.50
Samuel Fifield, liquor agent,	15.00
C. J. Mitchell, for three guide-boards,	4.25
C. J. Mitchell, for nails and spikes for Union bridge,	1.10
D. F. Cummings, for surveying town line,	1.00
	$57.37

TOWN OFFICERS' BILLS.

Paid Nathaniel P. Batchelder, town clerk,	10.00
John Smith, town treasurer,	5.00
Nathaniel P. Batchelder, } Superintending	11.50
Jonathan Emmons, } School Committee,	14.50
Moses M. R. Mitchell, collector,	19.05
Thomas Hammond, }	38.00
Charles J. Mitchell, } Selectmen,	25.50
Joshua P. Smith, }	19.50
	$143.05

EXPENDED ON R. BROWN'S SLED-ROAD.

Paid Horace Sanborn,	12.43
Daniel Batchelder,	10.01
Richard Brown,	29.75
Jonathan Emmons,	9.08
John Smith,	2.83
Samuel W. Dalton,	1.50
Josiah S. Morse,	1.25
Benjamin E. Tilton,	.50
David B. Clement,	2.00
Thomas Hammond,	18.67
for mending chains, ropes, blocks, &c.,	10.25
for powder, fuse, and use of drills,	1.56
	$99.83

Paid State tax for 1859,	80.50
County tax for 1859,	128.34
Teachers' Institute,	4.60
	$213.44

RECAPITULATION.

Whole amount received,	$1,990.16

PAID OUT.

Outstanding bills,	116.04	
Paid damages,	12.25	
Highways and bridges,	24.55	
Support of the poor,	576.76	
Support of schools,	230.00	
School house taxes,	88.03	
Abatement of taxes,	14.43	
Miscellaneous expenses,	57.37	
Town officers' bills,	143.05	
R. Brown's sled-road,	99.83	
County paupers for 1860,	28.88	
Due from the collector, 1859,	175.74	
State and county tax, and teachers' institute,	213.44	
Money on hand,	209.79	
		$1,990.16

DEMANDS AGAINST THE TOWN.

Nathaniel Batcheldor, note,	157.41
Aaron C. Prescott, "	247.19
David B. Clement, "	135.08
Jesse Prescott, "	108.89
Sophronia Sanborn, two notes,	235.00
Nathaniel Batcheldor, note,	71.00
Town note, for surplus revenue,	457.98
William G. Hull, note,	600.00
Josiah Quincy, note,	170.00
	$2,182.55

CLAIMS DUE THE TOWN.

William W. Harriman, note,	9.26
Due on collector's book, 1858,	83.29
" " " 1859,	175.74
Claims against James M. Cross,	20.88
Due from county, the funeral expenses of Susan Cross,	8.00
Due on collector's book, for 1857,	7.10
Cash in hands of selectmen,	209.79
	$514.06
Surplus revenue added,	457.98
	$972.04
Demands against the town,	2,182.55
Claims due the town,	514.06
	$1,668.49
Deduct surplus revenue,	427.98
Balance against the town,	$1,240.51

THOMAS HAMMOND,
CHARLES J. MITCHELL,
JOSHUA P. SMITH,
Selectmen of Bridgewater.

MARCH 1, 1860.

Superintending School Committee's Report.

The condition of the schools excels those of former years. In many respects there has been obvious improvements, and much credit is due, not only to the teachers, but also to the prudential committees and citizens, for the interest manifested, and the active and efficient services rendered. In order to state the fact last year, it became necessary to report that there was some negligence and apparent indifference in regard to the matter, and on the part of those to whom its interests were intrusted. But the more willing service and active coöperation which has been given the past year, has in a considerable degree relieved the arduous and responsible duties, both of teachers and superintending committee.

It may not be improper to suggest, that importance should be attached to the office, and sufficient care exercised in the selection, of the prudential committee, in order to promote the best interest of the schools in procuring teachers and appropriating the funds of the district.

The schools have been somewhat longer the past year, in consequence of employing female teachers, and appropriations made by the parents of several districts. The better way is, doubtless, and the investment more judicious, to raise by vote one hundred dollars in addition, to be appropriated in the ordinary manner.

The amount of school money required by law to be raised was $230.00; the sum arising from other sources was $206.89, making $436.89; which was divided according to the valuation in the several districts. This sum, divided equally among the whole number of scholars, gives to each $2.32. It will be seen that the whole number of different scholars who have attended school two weeks or

more during the year, was 188. Of these, 177 were between four and sixteen years of age, and 11 over sixteen. The whole number who attended the summer schools was 127, and the winter schools, 141. The average number in summer was 13, and the average nnmber in winter was 14.

Very little change has been made in the school-houses during the year. Nearly one-half the number are in good condition, and quite convenient; two or three are worthless, and should be removed, and a neat, commodious house erected in their place. It may be proper to suggest that a union of several of the school districts would be advantageous, and promote the interests of education. Perhaps this union might be accomplished before repairing or building new school-houses.

It is desirable that more attention be given to learning to write; and both in reading and spelling there is a constant necessity of calling the attention of teachers and scholars to the importance of recurring to the elementary principles, in order to teach the elements of the English language grammatically, and the rudiments of arithmetic and geography, according to the statutory provisions specifying the requisite qualifications of teachers.

All the teachers in summer, and all except three in the winter schools, were females. The practice of procuring female teachers is attended with several advantages. The wages being less, lengthens the schools; and most female teachers have a more familiar manner and a greater facility in teaching small scholars, and are usually more patient at the task.

It is the opinion of your Committee, that a frequent change of teachers is a source of much inconvenience, and is attended with loss to the districts; and it is recommended that the services of successful teachers be secured in the future in preference to the risk of new ones.

N. P. BATCHELDER,
JONATHAN EMMONS,

Superintending School Committee.

BRIDGEWATER, February 17, 1860.

STATISTICS OF SCHOOLS.

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEES.	TEACHERS. SUMMER SCHOOLS.	WINTER SCHOOLS.
1. David M. Webster.	Frances M. Blair.	Harrison Philbrick.
2. John B. Marston.	Amanda A. Prescott.	
3. M. M. R. Mitchell.	Laura E. Rogers.	Amanda A. Prescott.
4. Cyrus A. Cass.	Orpha J. Prescott.	Laura E. Rogers.
5. Horace Brown.		A. C. Prescott.
7. D. B. Clement.	Amanda A. Prescott.	L. D. Johnson.
8. J. H. Johnson.	Hattie E. Darling.	L. D. Johnson.
9. Enos Brown.		Nancy H. Bean.
10. Daniel Batchelder.	Mary A. Plumer.	Mary A. Plumer.
Union Dis. J. Nutting.		Esther D. Hammond.

Districts	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	9	10	Union
Whole No. of Scholars,	32	10	17	22	12	28	32	5	14	16
Whole No. attending in Summer,	24	10	11	18		14	16		12	
Whole No. attending in Winter,	29		14		12	26	28	5		16
Between Four and Sixteen,	23	8	10	17	7	12	17	3	12	14
Over Sixteen,	1	2	4	1	5	14	11	2		2
Average attendance in Summer,	22	8	10	16		13	14		10	
Average attendance in Winter,	26		10		9	20	22	4	9	12
No. between 4 and 14 not attending school anywhere,			1					4		
Length of Winter School in weeks,	7		7		8	8	10	9	7	9
Length of Summer School in weeks,	8	8	6	8		7	8		8	
No. of female Teachers in Summer,	1	1	1	1		1	1		1	
No. of female Teachers in Winter,			1	1				1		1
No. of male Teachers in Winter,	1				1	1	1			
Wages of male Teachers per month, including board,	19.00				19.00	20.00	23.84			
Wages of female Teachers per month, including board,	15.40	11.00	11.00	10.56		12.40		10.00	6	12.00
No of visits by Superintending Committee,	4	2	3	4	2	4	4	2	4	2
No. of visits by Prudential Committee,	2						1			2
No. of visits by Citizens,	23	3	14	18		17	22	4	5	10
Amt. appropriated for each scholar,	2.22	2.46	2.10	2.38	3.22	2.28	2.81	3.71	1.50	1.20
Average wages of male Teachers,			20.94							
Average wages of female Teachers,			10.42							